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PLAN IMPROVEMENTS IN COAL INDUSTRY

COAL INDUSTRY TO BE MODERNIZED -- Trybuna Ludu, No 336, 6 Dec 49

In 1936, investments in the coal industry reached a low point of 30 groszy per ton extracted. In 1945, they amounted to 36 prewar groszy per ton, and rose to one zloty 3 groszy in 1946. In 1949, investments were 2.5 prewar zlotys per ton extracted.

Not all the technical features of the mines could be changed within this short time. The Six-Year Plan provides 250 billion zlotys for investments.

Preparatory excavation in rock and coal as well as work at the pillars and stalls will be mechanized. Heavy drills will be used to cut rock. Bores will be deepened, and higher-powered charges will be used. Work at the galleries will be mechanized with drills and coal loaders running on caterpillar chassis. At the prop-walls, short-wall coal cutters will be used.

In 1955, completely mechanized combines for under-cutting, working, and loading coal will be activated at 220 faces out of the total of 500 faces.

Underground pneumatic transmissions will be used only in gas-permeated mines. Gas-tight electric transmissions will be introduced gradually in all other mines.

This program will succeed provided the production of mining machinery increases 3.5-4 times, and provided steel, power, and gas-tight equipment are available in sufficient quantities.

Before the war, Polish mining technicians followed the mining techniques of Western Europe, particularly of England. These techniques are now obsolete. In England, for instance, mechanization of underground coal loading in 1947 was only 2.5 percent, while the Six-Year Plan provides for 65 percent mechanization of coal loading. Polish production of mechanical loaders for coal excavation will be three times higher than in England. Only one sixth of the stalls in England have scraper conveyors, while the Polish plan provides that nearly all be supplied with scraper conveyors. While nothing is being done in England to promote use of coal combines, by the end of the Six-Year Plan 40 percent of Poland's coal faces will be supplied with combines.

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' RESOLUTION -- Rzeczpospolita, No 332, 2 Dec 49

Provisions of a resolution passed by the Council of Ministers with regard to the execution of the Six-Year Plan in the coal industry follow:

The Six-Year Plan envisages a 36-percent increase in coal extraction and a 35-percent increase in productivity. The important tasks facing the coal industry cannot be carried out without the greatest efforts on the part of the industry itself and without government assistance.

There must be an extensive mechanization program of coal mining to increase safety and productivity. At least two-thirds of the most strenuous underground operations of loading should be mechanized by the end of 1955.

During the first quarter of 1950, the Ministry of Mining and Power prepare a plan for the mechanization of preparatory work and extraction. It will also prepare a plan to install facilities for the remote control of coal cars and for automatic conveying. The Ministry of Mining and Power will prepare a plan for the improvement of ventilation and working conditions in the mines. The coal industry will accelerate the construction of new mines and will activate them 1-3 years ahead of the original schedule. The present construction tempo of new shafts and galleries must be speeded up two or threefold. For this end, basic operations must be mechanized to the following extent: loading of rocks 80 percent and underground transportation 90 percent. It will be necessary to change the present organization of work and to increase explosive charges.

Since the present level of mechanization does not insure an expansion of coal output, production of mining machinery must be increased to 280 million zlotys in 1937 prices by the end of the Six-Year Plan, compared with current production of 80 million zlotys in 1937 prices.

There must be greater production of pneumatic rock loaders, pneumatic grabs for loading of rocks in the pits, coal loaders, heavy coal cutters, and combines for cutting and loading.

To implement the mining machine production plan, an Institute for the Design of Mining Machines must be created.

Electrification is a prerequisite for mechanization. The coal industry is to electrify 52 gasless mines, while all other mines are to be electrified as soon as gas-proof equipment is provided. The Ministry of Heavy Industry will organize the production of change-over switches and motors for mining operations in 1950.

Since there has been a manpower shortage in the mining industry, the Central Office of Vocational Training is to increase the number of the three-year mining schools to have 35,000 young skilled workers for underground mining by the end of the Six-Year Plan. The number of graduates from such schools should increase more than threefold during the period of the plan. To insure the supply of skilled loaders, the annual number of graduates from the SPP [not identified] schools must increase from 8,000 in 1950 to 13,000 in 1955.

The Krakow Academy of Mining and Metallurgy will be expanded to include departments of mining, mining mechanics, and mining electrotechnology to provide 500 engineers in all categories each year. To assure a continuous influx of technicians and supervisors the Central Office of Vocational Training will train 8,700 mining technicians, mechanical, and electrotechnical engineers, and survey and planning technicians. To induce youth to attend mining schools, higher stipend scholarships will be awarded.

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To improve workers' transportation facilities in the Slask area, buses and streetcar lines will be organized on the following routes: Czeladz-Bytom, Myslowice-Modrzejow, and Sosnowiec-Niwka. New streetcar lines will be opened in the neighborhood of Rybnik: Rybnik-Modzislav and Rybnik-Pszow.

MARCEL MINE COMPLETES THREE-YEAR PLAN -- Polska Zbrojna, No 295, 27 Oct 49

The Marcel mine of the Rybnik Coal Association completed the Three-Year Plan for black coal extraction on 24 October 1949. All miners participated in labor competition.

Average productivity of 1,391 kilograms per man-day in January 1949 rose to 1,600 kilograms in September 1949, exceeding the best prewar results.

CHWALOWICE MINE COMPLETES THREE-YEAR PLAN -- Polska Zbrojna, No 296, 28 Oct 49

The Chwalowice mine in the Rybnik Association of the Coal Industry fulfilled the Three-Year Plan on 26 October 1949. This result was obtained by extensive labor competition in which over 97 percent of all miners participated.

Chwalowice miners by the end of the year will extract nearly 180,000 tons of coal in excess of the plan.

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